IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please delete paragraph **[00151]** and replace it with the following paragraph.

[00151] It is known that CHO cells do not contain a gene for beta-galactoside alpha 2,6-sialyltransferase, resulting in the absence of alpha 2,6-linked sialic acids at the terminal ends of – and O-linked oligosaccharides of endogenous and recombinant glycoproteins produced on these CHO cells. Since the alpha 2,3-sialyltransferase gene is present in CHO cells, proteins that are produced on these cells are typically from the 2,3 linkage type. EPO that was purified from human urine does, however, contain both alpha 2,3- and alpha 2,6-linked sialic acids. To determine whether PER.C6 cells, being a human cell line, are able to produce recombinant EPO containing both alpha 2,3- and alpha 2,6-linkages, a direct neuraminidase assay was performed on recombinant EPO produced on PER.C6 cells after transfection with EPO expression vectors. As a control, commercially available Eprex samples were used, which were derived from CHO cells and which should only contain sialic acid linkages of the alpha 2,3 type. The neuraminidases that were used were from Newcastle Disease Virus (NDV) that specifically cleaves alpha 2,3-linked neuraminic acids (sialic acids) from [[–]] <u>N-linked</u> and O-linked glycans, and from Vibro cholerae (VC) that non-specifically cleaves all terminal [[–]] <u>N-linked</u> or O-linked sialic acids (alpha 2,3, alpha 2,6 and alpha 2,8 linkages). Both neuraminidases were from Boehringer and were incubated with the samples according to guidelines provided by the manufacturer. Results are shown in FIG. 21A. In lanes 2 and 3 (treatment with NDV neuraminidase), a slight shift is observed as compared to lane 1 (non-treated PER.C6 EPO). When this EPO sample was incubated with VC derived neuraminidase, an even faster migrating band is observed as compared to NDV treated samples. However, with the commercially available Eprex, only a shift was observed when NDV derived neuraminidase was applied (lanes 6 and 7 compared to the non-treated sample in lane 5) and not when VC neuraminidase was used (lane 8).